

Primarily comprised of Nisei, second-generation Japanese-Americans who faced crushing prejudice and discrimination in the United States at the same time many of their family members were serving their country; this exceptional group has received honors and commendations of the highest level. In 2000, the Military Intelligence Service received the Presidential Unit Citation, the highest possible honor for a military unit, and in 2010 the 6,000 graduates of the MIS were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award given in this country. The Gold Medal ceremony conferring this honor was held this week in the U.S. Capitol and was attended by many of these courageous men. At the end of the war, General Charles Willoughby, Chief of Staff for Military Intelligence under General MacArthur, said that "The Nisei shortened the Pacific War by two years and saved possibly a million American lives and saved probably billions of dollars" during the conflict.

Initially run out of an airplane hangar on Crissy Field in San Francisco, the Military Intelligence Service was forced to relocate to Camp Savage in Minnesota in 1942 after President Roosevelt ordered the relocation of Japanese on the West Coast into internment camps. The language school continued to grow rapidly from its base at Camp Savage, and by 1944 had moved again, to Fort Snelling in St. Paul, to accommodate its increasing enrollment. After the war ended the MIS moved to the Presidio in Monterey, California, where it continued to provide essential language services to the Department of Defense.

By the 1970s the Military Intelligence Service's name had been changed to the Defense Language Institute, and all of the Department of Defense language programs were consolidated to the Monterey location. From there the program grew into the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, which celebrates its 70th anniversary on November 5, 2011 with a ball in Monterey.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be paying tribute to this outstanding group of Japanese Americans who selflessly served our nation during World War II. I know I speak for the entire House of Representatives in honoring these heroes.

COMMEMORATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BARBARA SINATRA CHILDREN'S CENTER

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly remarkable woman and dear friend, Mrs. Barbara Sinatra; and to celebrate the enduring legacy of one of her greatest achievements: The Barbara Sinatra Children's Center in Rancho Mirage, California.

One of the Coachella Valley's—and indeed the world's—most revered couples, Frank and Barbara Sinatra founded the Children's Center at the Eisenhower Medical Center in 1986, and this year the Center celebrates its 25th anniversary. On behalf of the people of the 45th Congressional District, I extend my most heartfelt congratulations on this momentous occasion.

Barbara Sinatra is beloved in our community for her caring and personal nature. Well known as someone who is just as comfortable running errands around town or attending charity galas with celebrity friends, Barbara Sinatra is a community treasure, and I am privileged to have this opportunity to call attention to one of the great women of our time and her signature cause.

Dedicated to improving the health and wellness of children who have suffered from child abuse and neglect or who are considered at risk, the Barbara Sinatra Center serves today as a shining example for the rest of the world to follow. The Center exists to benefit children of all walks of life, but the majority of those served are the ones who are most in need due to either their economic or family circumstances. By their own estimates, more than 86% of the children who benefit from the Center's services are below the federal poverty line. Having established the popular "Bosley the Bear" method of abuse education for young children, the Center is well regarded for its innovative approach to empowering kids to recognize dangerous situations and learn how to protect themselves.

Barbara Sinatra earned respect throughout the world for her commitment to ending abuse of our society's most vulnerable members. As the spouse of one of the world's most famous entertainers, Barbara Sinatra used her considerable talents to help children in need and has literally devoted her life to this critically important mission. Her work has been praised as groundbreaking and effective, and the Center enjoys remarkable support from the community and the families it has assisted over the more than two decades it has been in operation.

The list of philanthropists and abuse professionals who sing the praises of the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center is long and illustrious. At the 25th Anniversary Gala being celebrated this month, two such supporters will be recognized for their contributions to the Center—co-founders Helene Galen and Nelda Linsk.

Helene Galen is widely recognized as a leader in the philanthropic community, and a driving force behind countless worthwhile and charitable causes. Her support as a co-founder and President of the Children's Center Board of Directors has been invaluable and provides the Center with organizational and fundraising guidance that only someone of Galen's stature and expertise could impart.

Well respected in the desert community for her business acumen and commitment to helping others, Nelda Linsk has also been there from the beginning. Ms. Linsk joined Barbara Sinatra in recognizing the need for building self-esteem among victims of abuse, and her passion for helping others by sharing from her personal experience and her generous financial support helped make the difference in the evolution of the center from a local resource to a world-class treatment facility.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the drive, determination and devotion of Barbara Sinatra. Before Barbara Sinatra, Helene Galen and Nelda Linsk established the Children's Center, child abuse was rarely discussed and there was little understanding of the causes and means to prevent this devastating behavior.

The lives of countless families, most importantly the children themselves, have been forever

altered due to the tireless commitment and generous contributions made by these caring and unselfish women. Under Barbara Sinatra's leadership, the Center has made a difference in our community and throughout the world. No longer is child abuse discussed only in hushed conversations and hidden from the light of day, due largely to their groundbreaking work, new treatments and strategies are being developed that will hopefully reduce this most heinous form of abuse.

I am deeply honored not only to call Barbara, Helene and Nelda my friends, but also to serve as their representative in Congress and to have this opportunity to call attention to their great work and the Center's ongoing mission.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to join me in recognizing Barbara Sinatra Children's Center on the occasion of its 25th anniversary, and wishing Mrs. Sinatra and the Center another 25 years of service to these most vulnerable members of our community.

ECKERD COLLEGE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th Anniversary of the Eckerd College Search and Rescue (EC-SAR) team, one of the most unique and successful programs of its kind anywhere in our nation.

It is a privilege for me to represent Eckerd College and to have seen first hand the outstanding work of the students, faculty and staff who run the search and rescue program. Eckerd is a beautiful small private waterfront college with not only a tremendous academic reputation but also one as a leader in water sports and water activities.

The Search and Rescue Program was started by a group of students in 1971 to provide safety services for the college's water sports activities. By 1977, the program had become so successful and had attracted so much interest that it expanded to provide routine and emergency search and rescue services to the Tampa Bay boating community. Since then, the students, who are trained in technical rescue, boating safety, seamanship, searching, fire fighting, de-watering, navigation, medical response, and piloting rescue vessels; have worked side by side with the United States Coast Guard and a multitude of state and local agencies to save lives and rescue stranded boaters. In fact, the Eckerd Search and Rescue team was one of the first units to respond to a disastrous shipping accident in 1980 which destroyed one span of the massive Sunshine Skyway Bridge.

Mr. Speaker, the students and staff of Eckerd College give back to our community many times over through this superb program. They receive and respond to more than 500 calls per year and throughout the program's history have handled over 15,000 calls for assistance. This weekend, many of the program's organizers and volunteers from the past 40 years will gather to celebrate the history and accomplishments of this unique and